

Code of Student Conduct

Carteret County Public School System

School disciplinary procedures are designed “to provide a safe and productive learning environment, to continually teach students to respect themselves, others, and property, and to conduct themselves in a manner that fosters their own learning and the learning of those around them” (N.C.G.S. 115C-390.1). Students must respect the law and the rights of others while on any school building or bus, school campus, grounds, recreational area, athletic field, or other property under the control of the local board of education. These standards also apply with respect to student conduct not occurring on educational property when misconduct has or is reasonably expected to have a direct and immediate impact on the orderly and efficient operation of the schools or the safety of individuals in the school environment. Consequences for conduct violations are provided in the chart below but may deviate from what is listed, as follows:

- The administrator may recommend longer suspensions on a case-by-case basis with approval from the superintendent and his/her designee, such as for students with multiple offenses across categories or when a single behavior is particularly severe.
- The administrator may also choose alternative consequences in lieu of suspension on a case-by-case basis, such as in-school suspension, restitution (to the extent permitted by law), mediation, peer mediation, conflict resolution, after-school detention, Saturday School, and/or others.
- Any out-of-school suspension will include school counselor notification and reasonable attempts to hold a parent conference (in person or by phone).
- The administrator may recommend one day of out-of-school suspension for any minor disciplinary infraction after the student has previously served 10 days of in-school suspension for other violations in the current school year.

Conduct violations listed in Carteret County School Board Policy 4335, Section C, must be reported to law enforcement by the principal. Other misbehaviors listed below will be reported to law enforcement by the principal based on the nature and severity of the offending behavior. Misbehaviors are succinctly defined in the chart below.

Please refer to the designated Carteret County School Board Policy for a complete and proper understanding of a violation. Policies can be accessed on the school system’s website at www.carteretcountyschools.org or from the school’s main office.

	VIOLATION	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th Offense
1.	Assault: Physical – Assaulting, physically injuring, attempting to injure or intentionally behaving in such a way as could reasonably cause injury to another person. (Policy 4331, section A)				
	Upon a student or staff member (grades K-5)	0-1 day susp.	0-2 day susp.	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.
	Upon a student (grades 6-12)	0-3 day susp.	0-10 day susp.	up to long-term susp.	
	Upon a staff member (grades 6-12)	up to long-term susp.			
	Upon staff member with serious injury (by student age 13 or older)	up to long-term susp. and removal to alternative setting			
2.	Bomb Threat – Making or aiding in the making of a bomb threat or bomb hoax against school system property. (Policy 4333, Section B)	up to long-term susp. and report to law enforcement			

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3.	Cheating, Plagiarism, Falsification – Obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work by using dishonest means or obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work by representing the work of another as one’s own without the necessary and appropriate acknowledgement. (Policy 4310)				
	(grades K-5)	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	0-1 day susp.	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.
	(grades 6-12)	no credit on assignment plus grading period conduct grade of unsatisfactory resulting in expulsion for a year from clubs and organizations such as, but not limited to, Academic Achievement, Beta Club, and National Honor Society with parent and principal notified; student shall be eligible to rejoin such organizations at the next induction after the year expulsion	same as 1 st offense and 1 day susp.	same as 1 st offense and 3 days susp.	same as 1 st offense and 5 days susp.
4.	Communication Devices – Unauthorized use of any communication device, including, but not necessarily limited to, cellular telephones, smartwatches, paging devices, two-way radios, cameras, music players or similar devices. (Policy 4318)	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	0-1 day susp. or parent conf.	0-3 day susp.
5.	Damage to Property – Intentionally damaging or attempting to damage school or private property at any time when board policies are applicable. (Policy 4315; Policy 4330, Section B)	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION and restitution	0-1 day susp. and restitution	0-3 day susp. and restitution	0-5 day susp. and restitution
6.	Disruptive Behavior – Intentionally causing or urging the disruption of teaching, the orderly conduct of school activities or any lawful function of the school or school system. (Policy 4315)	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	0-1 day susp.	0-3 day susp.

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7.	Dress – Clothing or an accessory that violates a reasonable dress code adopted and publicized by the school; is substantially disruptive; is provocative or obscene; or endangers the health or safety of the student or others. (Policy 4315; Policy 4316)	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	0-1 day susp. and parent conf.	0-3 day susp.
8.	Drugs and Alcohol - Possessing, using, transmitting, selling or being under the influence of any prohibited substances as defined by board policy 4325. (Policy 4325)				
	(grades K-5)	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	0-1 day susp. and parent conf.	0-2 day susp. and parent conf.	0-3 day susp. and parent conf.
	(grades 6-8) - possession and /or use only	up to long-term susp. OR 6-day susp. and treatment	up to long-term susp.		
	(grades 9-12) – possession and/or use only	up to long-term susp. OR 6-day susp. and treatment	up to long-term susp.		
	(grades 6-12) – involving sale, distribution, or solicitation	up to long-term susp.			
9.	False Alarms - Intentionally initiating a false alarm of a fire or other emergency notification system, with report to law enforcement, as required. (Policy 4315)	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.	0-10 day susp.	0-10 day susp.
10.	Fighting - Adversarial physical contact, differentiated from poking or pushing, in which one or the other party or both contributed to the situation by instigating a physical altercation. (Policy 4331, Section A)				
	(grades K-5)	0-1 day susp.	0-1 day susp.	0-2 day susp.	0-3 day susp.
	(grades 6-8)	0-1 day susp.	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.	up to long-term susp.
	(grades 9-12)	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.	up to long-term susp.	

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11.	Harassment and Bullying – An act that places a student or employee in actual or reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property; or creates or is certain to create a hostile environment. (Policy 1710; Policy 1720; Policy 4329, Section C)				
	(grades K-2)	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	0-1 day susp. or parent conf.	0-3 day susp.
	(grades 3-5)	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	0-1 day susp. or parent conf.	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.
	(grades 6-12)	0-1 day susp.	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.	up to long-term susp.
12.	Incendiary Devices - K-12: Unauthorized possession or igniting of matches, lighters or other devices that produce flames. (Policy 4301)				
	Possession (grades K-5)	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	0-1 day susp. or parent conf.	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.
	Possession (grades 6-12)	0-1 day susp.	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.	up to long-term susp.
	Igniting Combustibles, Intentional – Intentionally igniting combustible liquids or other items that cause disruption or unsafe environment. (grades 6-12)	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.	up to long-term susp.	
13.	Insubordination - Willful refusal to follow an appropriate direction given by a staff member; this, however, does not include failure to complete homework. (Policy 4301)				
	(grades K-5)	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	0-1 day susp.	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.
	(grades 6-12)	0-1 day susp.	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.	0-5 day susp.
14.	Robbery or Extortion - Obtaining property from another person where his or her consent was induced by use of force, threat of force, or under false pretenses. (Policy 4333, Section D; Policy 4335)				
	(grades K-5)	restitution and parent conf.	0-1 day susp., restitution	0-3 day susp. and restitution	0-5 day susp. and restitution
	(grades 6-12)	0-3 day susp., restitution and parent conf.	0-5 day susp. and restitution	up to long-term susp. and restitution	

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15.	Theft, or Knowingly Receiving or Possessing Stolen Property – Stealing or attempting to steal school or private property and/or knowingly being in possession of stolen property. (Policy 4330)				
	(grades K-5)	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION and restitution	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION and restitution	0-1 day susp. and restitution	0-3 day susp. and restitution
	(grades 6-8)	0-1 day susp. and restitution	0-3 day susp. and restitution	0-5 day susp. and restitution	up to long-term susp. and restitution
	(grades 9-12)	0-3 day susp. and restitution	0-5 day susp. and restitution	up to long-term susp. and restitution	
16.	Threatening Acts- any sign or language that threatens force, violence, or disruption; includes harassment and bullying. (Policy 4331, sections B and C)				
	Involving student or staff (grades K-5)	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	0-1 day susp. or parent conf.	0-2 day susp. and parent conf.
	Involving student (grades 6-12)	0-1 day susp.	0-3 day susp.	5 day susp.	up to long-term susp.
	Involving staff (grades 9-12)	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.		
17.	Tobacco - Possessing, using or distributing tobacco, e-cigarettes or tobacco related paraphernalia, including juul components, in district buildings, on district grounds, in district vehicles or at district events. (Policy 4320)				
	(grades K-5)	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	0-1 day susp. and parent conf.	0-2 day susp. and parent conf.	0-3 day susp. and parent conf.
	(grades 6-12) possession and /or use only	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.	0-5 day susp.	0-5 day susp.
	(grades 6-12) – involving sale, distribution, or solicitation	0-3 day susp.	0-5 day susp.	0-5 day susp.	up to long-term susp.

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18.	Unacceptable Use of Technology – Misuse of school system technology, network and internet access, including but not limited to the accessing of explicit or pornographic material. (Policy 3225/4312/7320)	0-3 day susp. and parent conf.	0-5 day susp. and parent conf.	0-5 day susp. and revocation of user privileges for the remainder of the school year	0-10 day susp.
19.	Uncivil Behavior – Disrespectful behavior, using profanity, possessing sexually explicit or pornographic material, lying or gambling. (Policy 4310)	PRINCIPAL DISCRETION	0-3 day susp. or parent conf.	0-5 day susp.	0-10 day susp.
20.	Weapon or Look-alike Weapon Possession – Possessing, handling, using or transmitting, whether concealed or open, any weapon or any instrument that reasonably looks like a weapon or could be used as a weapon. (Policy 4333, Section A)				
	(grades K-12) – non-firearm	0-5 day susp.	0-10 day susp.	up to long-term susp.	
	(grades K-12) – possession of firearm or powerful explosive	365-day susp. and report to law enforcement			

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